

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 EB-08 IGA-02 AGRE-00 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /099 W

-----091339Z 085911 /44

P R 091200Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4286

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, FAO, TZ

SUBJECT: FAO PROPOSED FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 49370, (B) ROME 1577

1. ON 23 FEB VON TEUTEM AND BARKER OF FAO ROME DISCUSSED SUBJECT IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, AID DIRECTOR, AID ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, AND ECONOFF. HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING WERE AS FOLLOWS:
A. AMB EXPLAINED OUR RATIONALE IN FORMULATING PL-480 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1977. GIVEN THE SHORTFALL IN DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL PURCHASES, WE HAD DECIDED MEET FOODGRAIN GAP AND DEFER CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUBJECT PROPOSAL. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE HAD CONCURRED.

B. WHILE WE INDICATED SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR GRAIN RESERVES, WE NOTED THERE NUMBER OF UNSETTLED ISSUES REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION BOTH ON WORLDWIDE BASIS AND FOR TANZANIA. SPECIFICALLY, WE WENT OVER PROBLEMS CONTAINED 76 DAR ES SALAAM 4162 AND EMPHASIZED OUR VIEW THAT TANZANIA DOES NOT HAVE ADEQUATE STORAGE OR MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY TO HANDLE A NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESERVE OF 60,000 TONS. WE HAD SOME DOUBTS OF WISDOM OF ESTABLISHING SUCH AN "EMERGENCY RESERVE" AT LEAST UNTIL TANZANIA BECOMES SELF-SUFFICIENT IN FOOD AND HAS ADEQUATE STORAGE TO HANDLE ANTICIPATED
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NORMAL ANNUAL FLOW OF GRAIN.

C. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT ONCE PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING DETAILS WORKED OUT AND COORDINATORS OF PROGRAM IN PLACE, WE PREPARED AGAIN LOOK AT PROPOSAL. IF OUR CONCERNS NOTED ABOVE ARE SATISFIED AND IF TANZANIA'S REQUEST TO US FOR FOODGRAIN GAP-FILLING FOR 1978 IS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED, AMBASSADOR SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER

RECOMMENDING MODEST GRAIN CONTRIBUTION TO FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM.

D. VAN TEUTEM ASKED IF WE WOULD AGREE TO PORTION OF FY 77
PL-480 TITLE I DELIVERIES TO TANZANIA BEING DESCRIBED FOR PR
PURPOSES AS CONTRIBUTION TO FAO'S FOOD SECURITY SCHEME. WE
SAID WE WOULD NOT RPT NOT AGREE.

E. WE STRONGLY ENDORSED VAN TEUTEM'S SUGGESTION THAT FAO
MIGHT ASSUME COORDINATING ROLE AMONG TANGOV AND POTENTIAL
FOOD DONORS TO REVIEW FOOD AND STORAGE SITUATION EACH YEAR AND
TO FOSTER TIMELY, EFFECTIVE, AND INTEGRATED RESPONSE TO
TANZANIA'S ANTICIPATED FOODGRAIN NEEDS FOR THAT CROP YEAR. IF
FAO WANTED TO LABEL ANNUAL COORDINATED DONOR RESPONSE AS A
"FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM", WE HAD NO OBJECTION: THOUGH THIS WAS
NOT HOW WE HAD INTERPRETED THE FAO PROPOSAL.

F. VAN TEUTEM SAID THERE SOME AMBIGUITY RE MEANING OF "FOOD
SECURITY" AND "STRATEGIC RESERVE" AS WELL AS IN EXACT NATURE OF
PROPOSAL FOR TANZANIA. HE PROMISED FURTHER ENLIGHTENMENT AT
FUTURE TIME.

2. ABOVE CONTAINS OUR LATEST THINKING AND SUGGESTED GUIDANCE ON
FAO PROPOSAL FOR TANZANIA. IN ANY FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS, WOULD
HOPE DEPT/AID WOULD DRAW ON ABOVE HQO PUT IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE
VAN TEUTEM'S OVERLY POSITIVE STATEMENTS CONCERNING OUR SUPPORT
FOR RESERVE (AS REPORTED REF A).
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